(d) The total recoverable reserves of gold in the country as on 1.4.2000 are placed at 19,751 thousand tonnes containing 88 tonnes of gold metal.

Cases of Fire and Accidents in Coal Mines

†2837. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of fire and accidents in coal mines/ headquarters have increased during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the State-wise details of losses to life and property particularly in respect of Bihar; and

(c) what are the details of measures taken to avert these accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The number of fire accidents in coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) during the years 2000 and 2001 were as under:

Company	2000 (Prov.)	2001 (Prov.)
ECL	5	9
BCCL	2	2
CCL	0	0
NCL	0	0
WCL	3	1
SECL	0	0
MCL	1	1
NEC OF CIL	0	0
TOTAL (CIL)	11	13
SCCL	1	0

In addition, there was an incident of fire in BCCL headquarters at Koyla Bhawan in 2001.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Accidents have not increased in the coal mines/Headquarters of subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited during the last two years as shown below:

Year	CIL		SCCL	
	Fatal Accidents	Serious Accidents	Fatal Accidents	Serious Accidents
2000	80	498	26	87
2001	68	415	25	105

(b) State-wise losses of life due to accidents in coal mines in Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited are as under:—

State	Loss of life	
	2000	2001
Andhra Pradesh	33	25
Assam	1	0
Bihar/Jharkhand	36	47
Maharashtra	19	12
MP/Chhattisgarh	25	22
Orissa	2	4
UP	2	1
West Bengal	15	17
Total	133	128

There was no loss of life due to fire. In case of underground fire/ spontaneous heating, the affected area is sealed off and again re-opened for exploitation when the fire is extinct.

Details of loss of property due to fire in CIL in the last two years are as under:—

Company	State	Loss of property (Provisional)
ECL	Bihar/Jharkhand	2001:- One shovel at Chitra was damaged due to fire. Loss —Rs. 40 Lakhs (approx.)

Company	State	Loss of property (Provisional)
BCCL	Bihar/Jharkhand	2001:- Fire at Koyla Bhavan, BCCL Hq. Loss—Rs. 1.51 crores (approx.)
NCL	MP/UP	2001:- Bina CHP was damaged due to fire. Loss—Rs. 8.44 Lakhs (approx.)
MCL	Orissa	2001:- One shovel was damaged in Lingraj OC. Loss—Rs. 40 Lakhs (approx.)

(c) In addition to compliance with requirements of mining safety laws, Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies are taking the following measures to check accidents in its coal mines and to make mining work more safe:—

(i) Monitoring safety status of mines by Internal Safety Organisation(ISO) both at subsidiary level and at CIL Hq.

(ii) Conducting regular safety audits of mines and implementing recommendations of the same.

(iii) Design of system of support of roof in the development workings in underground mines is being done based on Rock Mass Rating study.

(iv) Greater use of quick-setting cement capsule grouted roof bolts for support in development workings in underground mines. Roof-bolting with resin capsules are under-going trials in some mines.

(v) Phased replacement of timber support by steel support is being done.

(vi) Reducing exposure of workers to mining hazards by mechanisation of loading operations by increasing use of SDLs & LHDs in under-ground mines. Also Powered Support Longwall technology, where the face workers work under-skin-to-skin steel roof support, have been introduced in some mines.

(vii) Regular monitoring of mine environment by hand held gas-detectors and flame safety lamps. Besides, computerised continuous mine environmental tele-monitoring system have been introduced in some mines.

(viii) Examining the danger of inundation from both surface and underground sources of water before every monsoon.

(ix) Promoting workers participation in safety management through various bodies from the mine level to area level, subsidiary company level and CIL level.

(x) Coal India Ltd. has made a thorough review of precautions against inundation in its mines and check correlation survey have been undertaken to establish the barriers between water-logged workings wherever danger of inundation exists.

(xi) A comprehensive action-plan is under implementation to reduce accidents in opencast mines and at surface of mines.

(xii) Thrust on training & re-training of workmen including contractor's workers and supervisors.

Accidents in coal mines

†2838. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the zone-wise number of fatal and non-fatal accidents in coal mines during the last one year and the relief provided to the injured persons in such accidents; and

(b) the steps taken to prevent such accidents and to ensure responsibility for the same and the details of corrective measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The zone-wise number of fatal and non-fatal accidents in coal mines during the year 2001 are as under:—

Sl. No.	DGMS Zone	Fatal Accidents			Serious Accidents	
		Accident	Killed	Injured	Accident	Injured
1.	Central Zone, Dhanbad	17	46	6	99	104
2.	Eastern Zone, Sitarampur	19	20	1	181	191
3.	Northern Zone, Udaipur	2	2	—	6	6
4.	South-Eastern Zone, Ranchi	9	9	1	32	40
5.	Southern Zone, Hyderabad	30	30	3	111	121
6.	Western Zone, Nagpur	29	35	3	231	237
	All India	106	142	14	660	699

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.